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July 29, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Comment Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I write in support of LightSquared's efforts to launch a nationwide 4G-LTE broadband wireless network. This network represents a rare opportunity to increase the amount of spectrum assigned to broadband wireless, a crucial goal of our National Broadband Plan.

LightSquared's integrated satellite-terrestrial network will greatly increase access to wireless broadband for the 26 million Americans who lack it, particularly in rural areas. The company is a long-standing satellite communications provider to the public safety and homeland security community, and the new network's ability to reach remote areas and provide seamless secure connectivity will be of great benefit to first responders, healthcare workers and emergency response personnel.

As a wholesale provider, LightSquared will allow smaller wireless providers to offer world-class service and also enable many new competitors to enter the wireless market. Competition brings innovation, greater customer choice and lower prices. LightSquared's network also will bring much-needed investment in the U.S. economy, creating 15,000 jobs a year during its buildout.

Without question, the potential for interference with GPS devices is a serious issue that the FCC must address. However, LightSquared's proposal to launch operations only in the lower band of its licensed spectrum takes care of 99.95% of GPS receivers. Given the United States' urgent need for expanded wireless broadband capacity, it seems that the next step is for the GPS industry to make the necessary adjustments to its receivers to fix the remaining 0.05%.

The GPS community has had eight years to prepare for this day. The American people should not need to wait further – and certainly not indefinitely – to accommodate the GPS industry's procrastination.

Sincerely,  
Stan Fichtman  
Citizen of the State of Hawaii